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the process is one of more or less abnormal maturation, and not of cleavage at all. This abortive maturation is followed by degenerative fragmentation of the cytoplasm.

ARTIFICIAL FERTILIZATION OF A QUEEN BEE.

Jager and Howard (Sci. Nov. 13, '14) announce the successful injection, by artificial process, of sperm into a virgin queen bee. This was done on July 28. By August 4 the abdomen showed that the ovaries were developing favorably. On August 18 the queen began to lay eggs. About 3000 eggs were deposited. All the eggs except four have produced workers. The four produced drones. The brood behaved in a normal way in every respect. The studies will be continued next season.

FAT ABSORPTION IN THE KING SALMON.

Greene (Bul. Bur. Fisheries, Vol. xxxiii, No. 802) has undertaken by histological methods to trace the absorption of fat in the various parts of the digestive tract of the King Salmon. For staining the fat in the cells chief reliance was placed on alkaline scarlet red. Fresh material was dropped into 10% formalin for two hours or more. Sections were made by freezing. This method was checked by the Flemming osmic acid method. He finds that fat is absorbed thru the columnar epithelium of all portions of the tract. The cardiac and pyloric portions of the stomach and the intestine all absorb fat; but probably the greater part of the fat is absorbed thru the wall of the pyloric cœca. This seems their primary function. The author thinks that the fats pass thru the distal parts of the epithelial cells in a dissociated form, and that re-synthesis takes place in the deeper parts of the cells.

CULTURES FOR PLANKTON DIATOMS.

Allen (Jour. Mar. Biol. Assn. No. 3, '14) gives an account of efforts to make suitable artificial cultures for certain plankton organisms. The author found that "artificial" sea-water, made of doubly distilled water and pure chemicals in proportions found in sea-water did not serve. A small amount of sea-water (less than 1% will produce the result) added to such a culture was very successful. It was often more so than media based on sea-water itself. The author feels that this result is due to some specific sub-